



Nicaragua

Earthquake

27 July 2018

Event Briefing

28 July 2018

1 INTRODUCTION

A magnitude 5.3 earthquake occurred at 20:42:03 UTC on 27 July 2018, (14:42:03 local time), at 64.6 km (40.1 mi) SSW of Intipucá, El Salvador; 83.3 km (51.8 mi) SSE of Puerto El Triunfo, El Salvador and 85.5 km (53.1 mi) SSE of Usulután, El Salvador. Initial estimates from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) located the epicentre of the event at 12.626°N, 88.177°W, and at a depth of 51.0 km (31.7 mi). Nicaragua was the only CCRIF member country where peak ground acceleration computed using the MPRES model was greater than 0.01g for this earthquake.

The earthquake was also reported by the Seismology Department of the Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies (in Spanish: Dirección de Sismología del Instituto Nicaragüense de Estudios Territoriales), with the following earthquake characteristics: epicentre coordinates – 12.441°N and 88.348°W, magnitude – 5.7, depth – 14 km (8.7 mi) (Figure 1).

According to CCRIF earthquake policy, this event briefing is designed to review the possible impact and damages from peak ground acceleration using the seismic parameters reported by the USGS.

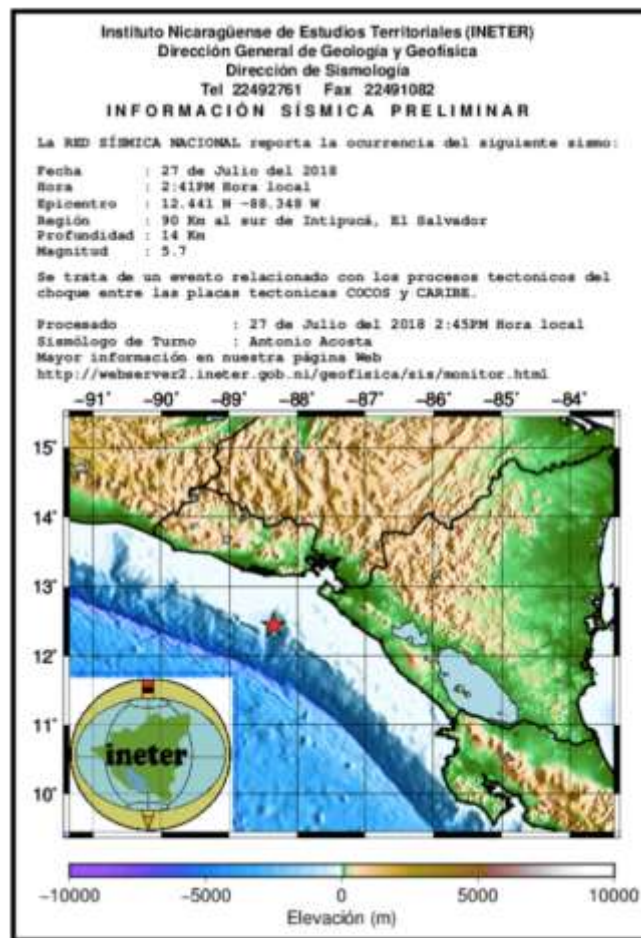


Figure 1 Information from the Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies Seismology Department, regarding the earthquake event at 20:42:03 UTC on 27 July 2018. Source: *INETER* (<http://ineter.gob.ni>).

2 CCRIF MODEL OUTPUTS

Under CCRIF’s loss calculation protocol, a Multi-Peril Risk Estimation System (MPRES) report is required for any earthquake with a magnitude of greater than or equal to 5.0 that occurs within the region monitored by CCRIF and which generates a peak ground acceleration of at least 0.01g in one or more grid cells of at least one member country. Based on the MPRES footprint for this earthquake, peak ground acceleration between 0.005g and 0.02g was computed in the territory of Nicaragua, for which the loss estimation was zero (Figure 2).

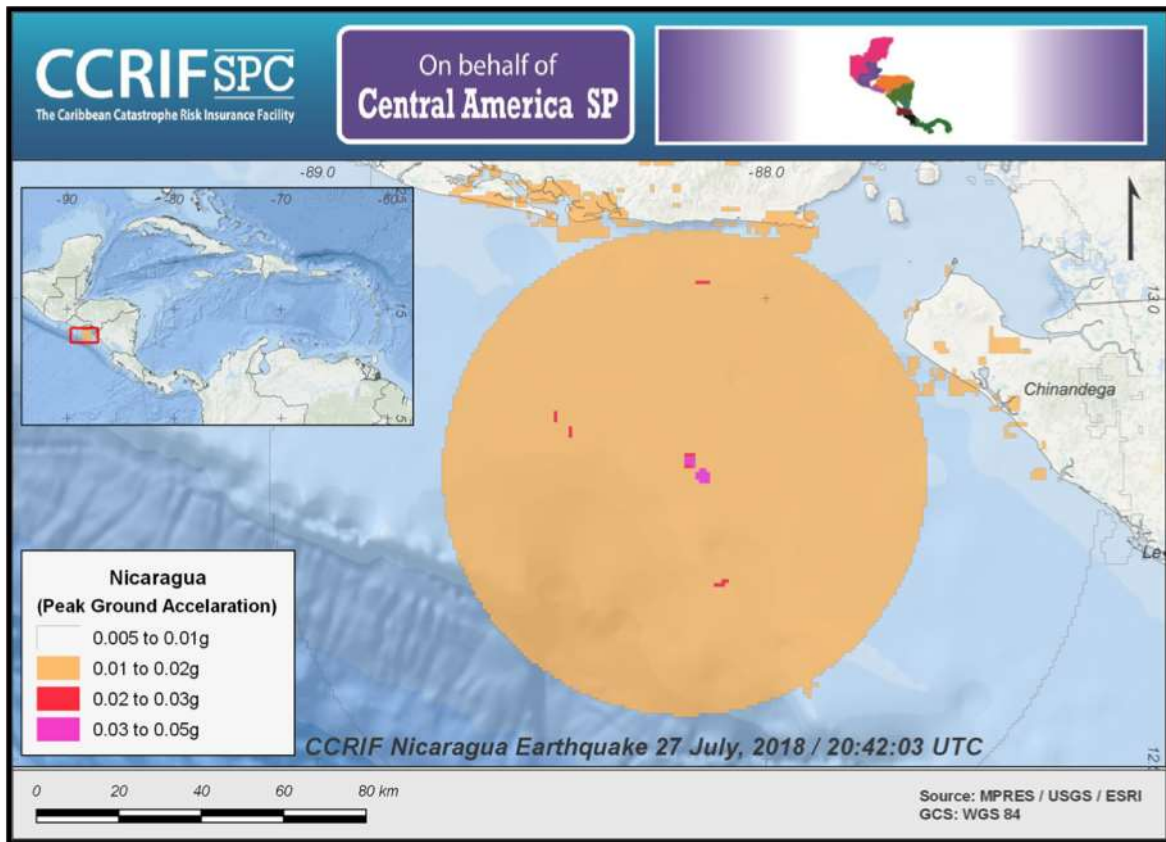


Figure 2 Map showing the peak ground acceleration computed using MPRES model in Nicaragua, following the magnitude 5.3 earthquake on 27 July 2018 at 20:42:03 UTC. Source: *USGS & CCRIF MPRES*.

3 IMPACTS

At the time of this writing, no information was available related to damages or losses in Nicaragua due to this earthquake.

According to the USGS “Did You Feel It?” online tool¹, in Nicaragua within a radius of 175 km (108.7 mi) from the epicentre, 1 person reported the earthquake as a “weak shake with no damage” (Mercalli intensities: II-III).

¹ Did You Feel It?, United States Geological Survey, review date: 28 July 2018, available at: <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/us2000gfiz#dyfi>

4 TRIGGER POTENTIAL

The lack of impact reports corroborates preliminary runs of CCRIF's loss model that generated no government losses for Nicaragua, and therefore no payout is due.

For further information, please contact ERN-RED, the CCRIF SPC Risk Management Specialist.

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